

INFORMATION LETTER

Not for
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

No. 1086

Washington, D. C.

May 18, 1946

Directors' Meeting Program

Price Administrator Paul Porter will be the feature speaker at the luncheon of the Board of Directors on May 22 instead of Geoffrey Baker, OPA's Deputy Administrator for Price, who was originally scheduled to speak at this meeting. Norris E. Dodd, Under Secretary of Agriculture, will be the principal speaker at the Board's luncheon on May 23. Administrator Porter will discuss OPA's 1946 pricing program for canned foods and Secretary Dodd will outline the U. S. Department of Agriculture's 1946 program. Both speeches will be fully covered in next week's LETTER.

Stabilization Director Chester Bowles this week reported that he was ready to recommend the return of rationing on some foods if necessary and that a decision would be reached within the next 30 to 60 days.

CPA Administrator John D. Small, in an official statement this week, called for a six-month moratorium on all strikes declaring that six or eight months of sustained maximum production would place the Nation well on its way towards prosperity.

Four days of testimony and two days of argument before the Interstate Commerce Commission were completed May 13 in connection with the railroads' request for a 25 percent increase in freight rates. Although the ICC had promised to reach a decision on the freight rate case before the end of this week, as the LETTER went to press, no decision had been reached.

The State Department will introduce a proposal at the May 20 meeting of the Food and Agricultural Organization for the establishment of a new international body to replace the present Combined Food Board with authority to allocate the world's food supplies for the duration of the famine emergency.

Cannery Labor Equipment

Details of a program under which processors and farmers may purchase housing and feeding equipment from the War Assets Administration was announced this week by the Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture through its State farm labor supervisors. The program was developed at a series of inter-governmental agency meetings held as a result of the Association's efforts to obtain such equipment for the industry.

Before cannery can purchase the surplus equipment, they must obtain certification from their State farm labor supervisors. Application forms for this purpose may be obtained from the County Extension Offices.

In the case of feeding and housing equipment (other than tents, canvas cots, and blankets), cannery should negotiate for purchases with the regional offices of WAA named below. These offices have been directed by the (See *Cannery Labor Equipment*, page 215)

Bean Standards Hearing Concluded; Industry Witnesses Testify

The public hearing called by the Administrator of the Federal Security Agency to receive evidence on which to base a standard of identity and a minimum standard of quality for both canned green beans and canned wax beans (see *INFORMATION LETTER* for April 13, 1946, page 163) was held May 14-15 and 16. All the evidence was submitted in person, supplemented with a number of exhibits. No affidavits had been received by the presiding officer when the hearing opened.

The hearing was attended by representatives of the Food and Drug Administration and other government agencies, and by canning industry witnesses acting both as representatives of regional canning associations and as individual cannery. There were no consumer witnesses.

Two Food and Drug (See *Bean Standards Hearing*, page 215)

1946 Interim Subsidy Program for Canned Vegetables

The Department of Agriculture on Friday announced the continuation to July 1, 1946, of a subsidy program to cover that portion of the 1946 pack of canned vegetables and vegetable products produced through June 30, 1946, and which are currently subsidized. The 1946 interim program and the subsidy rates are substantially the same as in 1945, and will cover civilian sales of canned sweet corn; green peas, green pea soup; tomatoes, tomato juice, tomato catsup, paste, sauces, and puree; tomato juice contained in mixed vegetable juices; tomato cocktail; and tomato soup.

The subsidies also apply to tomato paste, tomato puree, and tomato sauces when used by the original processor either from canned or bulk stocks in his manufacture of other canned food products. Continuation of the incentive subsidy of six cents per dozen, basis No. 2 cans, for canned tomatoes is provided.

Eligible Sales Explained

The period of production covered by the program is March 1, 1946, through June 30, 1946, for all packs except canned sweet corn, green peas and green pea soup. The beginning date of the production period on these products is February 2, 1946. The eligible sales period began February 2, 1946, and will end June 30, 1946, for canned sweet corn, green peas and green pea soup, and the period for canned tomatoes and tomato products is March 1, 1946, through June 30, 1946. Utilization in order to be eligible must also be made during the eligible sale period.

Eligible sales will not include sales by canners to foreign markets. Details regarding sales to territories and possessions of the United States will be announced later.

Exemption from suspension of or change in civilian ceiling prices will in no way prevent recapture of subsidy payments. If any subsidized product is suspended or exempted from price control, no sales of such product after the effective date of such suspension or exemption will be subsidized. In the event ceiling prices of subsidized products are adjusted in place of subsidy payment, the manner of adjusting subsidy rates will be announced.

As in the 1945 program, subsidy payments will be handled by the respective marketing field offices of the Fruit and Vegetable Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration.

The action was directed by the Office of Economic Stabilization. Decisions with respect to the subsidy program on production on and after July 1, 1946, will be made after Congress has acted on the general question of continuing subsidies.

Sugar Delegates to Return

Word has been received by the U. S. Department of Agriculture that the Cuban sugar delegates expect to return to Washington this week end to resume negotiations concerning the United States purchase of the Cuban sugar crop.

To Hold Frozen Food Packer Convention in San Francisco

The Board of Directors of the National Association of Frozen Food Packers has voted to hold the next annual meeting of that organization in San Francisco, Calif., during the week of March 3, 1947. Members of the frozen food association are planning to arrange accommodations for distributors, brokers, equipment manufacturers, suppliers, and others interested in participating in the meeting.

1946 Strawberry Crop Larger

Indicated 1946 production of strawberries, including those used for processing, is estimated by the Department of Agriculture this week as 7,721,000 crates (24 quarts). Present estimate is 45 percent greater

than the 1945 estimate, but 32 percent below the 1935-44 average.

Frozen Food Research Director

C. F. Evers, former Director of Research for the Birds Eye-Snyder Division of the General Foods Corp., has been appointed Technical Director of the National Association of Frozen Food Packers, Washington, D. C. Mr. Evers, before joining the staff of the frozen foods association, served as chairman of that organization's Technical and Research Committee and in that capacity has directed its activities with regard to frozen foods standardization.

Mr. Evers is a member of the American Chemical Society, the Institute of Food Technologists, the American Society of Refrigerating Engineers, and the American Public Health Association.

Frozen Fruit and Vegetable Packs for 1942-45 Reported

The 1945 pack of frozen fruits totaled 430,176,545 pounds, according to the National Association of Frozen Food Packers. This compares with the 1944 pack of 323,886,354, the 1943 pack of 187,266,859, and the 1942 pack of 194,644,923 pounds.

That organization also reported

that the 1945 pack of frozen vegetables amounted to 307,977,360 pounds as against 237,092,417 pounds packed in 1944, 207,871,993 pounds in 1943, and 152,512,470 pounds packed in 1942.

The following tables show the packs by products for the years 1942 to 1945:

FROZEN FRUIT PACK BY ITEMS				
Products	1942 Pounds	1943 Pounds	1944 Pounds	1945 Pounds
Blackberries.....	8,229,190	8,309,453	16,173,214	21,503,239
Blueberries.....	1,716,156	2,700,148	4,962,721	7,828,944
Boysenberries.....	2,060,806	1,669,418	4,194,318	7,084,067
Gooseberries.....	613,904	1,180,224	1,646,307	1,557,935
Loganberries.....	2,651,803	1,288,506	3,068,304	2,522,402
Black raspberries.....	6,207,453	5,366,594	5,622,655	3,477,316
Red raspberries.....	14,205,620	14,607,642	13,117,060	13,254,483
Strawberries.....	63,776,203	29,828,978	34,825,459	36,916,743
Youngberries.....	2,146,246	1,249,043	2,477,442	2,550,624
Cherries, red sour.....	41,819,884	23,005,362	55,058,949	16,143,827
Currants.....	3,403,743	2,598,496	4,820,205	2,667,597
Apples and appleauce.....	15,110,065	27,810,135	52,390,801	92,985,406
Apricots.....	5,264,556	10,012,121	42,616,708	65,158,032
Peaches.....	13,801,217	17,006,527	45,562,689	103,634,380
Prunes.....	2,855,724	22,139,794	18,067,764	19,368,454
Miscellaneous fruits.....	10,782,353	18,402,418	19,221,668	34,533,108
Total.....	194,644,923	187,266,859	323,886,354	430,176,545

FROZEN VEGETABLE PACK BY ITEMS				
Products	1942 Pounds	1943 Pounds	1944 Pounds	1945 Pounds
Asparagus.....	5,769,452	9,610,255	12,339,171	20,687,590
Beans, green and wax.....	13,783,667	24,491,237	23,783,999	31,460,363
Beans, lima.....	29,403,075	20,880,233	29,549,528	28,475,097
Broccoli.....	3,223,195	4,881,446	6,839,582	11,655,577
Brussels sprouts.....	3,429,558	4,838,527	4,919,560	6,606,310
Carrots.....	1,042,884	2,259,822	903,234	6,050,973
Cauliflower.....	1,199,797	2,512,666	4,820,680	7,391,186
Corn—cut.....	9,369,276	21,449,498	20,982,090	25,551,366
Corn-on-cob.....	1,766,843	845,699	605,790	445,389
Peas.....	89,077,163	70,310,152	79,152,398	103,833,563
Peas and carrots.....	1,056,488	1,619,739	2,086,073	5,321,591
Rhubarb.....	834,170	3,620,180	4,365,920	6,851,526
Spinach.....	16,575,125	24,647,793	31,947,367	36,730,643
Succotash.....	61,566	248,514	1,112,298	1,756,961
Pumpkin and squash.....	2,633,121	8,343,702	10,002,144	7,353,584
Miscellaneous vegetables.....	3,287,090	7,294,611	3,712,773	7,865,052
Total.....	152,512,470	207,871,993	237,092,417	307,977,360

PROCESSING LIMA BEANS

BAE Report Indicates Near-record 1946 Crop in Prospect Only Exceeded by 1942

A near-record crop of 75,050 acres of green lima beans for processing is indicated for 1946, the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported this week. If early season plans are carried out, the 1946 planting will be slightly more than 11 percent over last year's acreage of 67,410 acres and will be exceeded only by the 75,630 acres planted in 1942. The estimated 1946 acreage is expected to be 40 percent above the 1935-44 average of 53,670 acres.

The BAE report, which is summarized below, is based on acreage "intentions" reports received from canners and freezers late in April. The report follows:

New York, New Jersey and Ohio are the only important States where the acreage-intentions for 1946 are less than the 1945 planted acreages. In most of the other leading States the percentage increase in plantings for 1946 over 1945 ranges from 5 percent in Pennsylvania to 51 percent in California.

Loss of acreage planted to green lima beans for processing has averaged about 7 percent annually during the past 10 years. If loss occurs in 1946 in line with the 10-year average, a planting of 75,050 acres will result in about 69,800 acres for harvest. This compares with 58,340 acres harvested in 1945 and the 10-year average of 50,050 acres.

Canned Tomato Juice Stocks

The civilian stocks of canned tomato juice, canned tomato juice cocktail, and mixtures containing 70 percent or more tomato juice, on May 1, 1946, totaled 1,245,000 cases, basis 24/2's, as compared with 2,290,000 cases, basis 24/2's on April 1, 1946, and 1,656,000 cases, basis 24/2's on May 1, 1945, the N.C.A. Division of Statistics reports.

Civilian shipments during April, 1946, totaled 1,045,000 cases, basis 24/2's, as compared with 665,000 cases, basis 24/2's, during the corresponding period last year.

The details as to supplies, stocks and shipments of canned tomato juice, tomato juice cocktail and mixtures containing 70 percent or more tomato juice, as compiled from reports from 91 percent of the canners known to have packed these products during 1945, follow:

The 1935-44 average yield of green lima beans for processing is 1,115 pounds per acre. The harvest of 69,800 acres in 1946, with yields in line with the average of 1,115 pounds per acre, would give a production of about 38,900 tons for canning and freezing. This compares with 34,900 tons produced in 1945 and the average of 27,720 tons.

The following table shows the planted acreages which will result in the various States if the late April intentions to contract and plant lima beans are carried out. These plans may be considerably modified before plantings are actually made. They are, therefore, not to be considered as an estimate of the acreage planted for the 1946 season.

States	1945 planted Acres	1946 indicated Acres
New York.....	1,800	1,200
New Jersey.....	14,300	14,000
Pennsylvania.....	4,100	4,300
	19,700	19,500
Ohio.....	1,700	1,500
Michigan.....	3,200	3,900
Wisconsin.....	3,300	4,000
	8,200	9,400
Delaware.....	12,800	14,100
Maryland.....	3,200	3,700
Virginia.....	2,600	2,900
	18,600	20,700
Utah.....	400	400
Washington.....	400	400
California.....	4,370	6,610
	5,170	7,410
Other States.....	15,740	18,040
U. S. Total.....	67,410	75,050

SUPPLY, STOCKS, AND SHIPMENTS (BASIS 24/2's)

	1944-45 Cases	1945-46 Cases
Carryover stocks, Aug. 1..	200,000	200,000
Pack.....	30,800,000	28,380,000
Total supply.....	31,000,000	28,580,000
Government purchases.....	14,000,000	*180,000
Civilian supply.....	17,000,000	28,400,000
Civilian stocks, May 1....	1,656,000	1,245,000
Shipments during April....	665,000	1,045,000
Shipments Aug. 1-May 1..	15,353,000	27,164,000

* Revised government purchases from 1945 pack.

STOCKS AND SHIPMENTS BY CAN SIZES (ACTUAL CASES)

Sizes	Cans per case	Total civilian stocks Apr. 1, 1946	May 1, 1946	Civilian shipment Apr. 1946
		Cases	Cases	Cases
No. 300....	48	286	268	18
No. 2....	24	875,500	453,584	421,916
No. 3 eyl..	12	812,504	431,393	381,111
No. 10....	6	284,171	182,198	101,973
Glass.....		12,076	5,615	6,461
Total (actual cases).....		1,984,537	1,073,058	911,479
Total (basis 24/2's).....		2,290,000	1,245,000	1,045,000

Stocks of Canned Sweet Corn

Civilian stocks of canned sweet corn in canners' hands May 1, 1946, were 1,516,564 actual cases, equivalent to 1,460,000 cases basis No. 2's, according to the Association's Division of Statistics. These compare with May 1, 1945, civilian stocks of 733,000 cases, basis No. 2's.

Shipments by canners of sweet corn in April, 1946, were 1,505,468 actual cases, equivalent to 1,374,000 cases, basis No. 2's. Shipments of canned sweet corn in April, 1945, were 927,000 cases, basis No. 2's.

The table shown below is based on reports from canners who packed about 91 percent of the 1945 pack, together with estimates for those not reporting to the Division:

SUPPLY, STOCKS AND SHIPMENTS (BASIS 24/2's)

	1944-45 Cases	1945-46 Cases
Carryover stocks, Aug. 1..	400,000	100,000
Pack.....	25,080,100	28,236,900
Total supply.....	25,480,100	28,336,900
Government purchases.....	7,100,000	*750,000
Civilian supply.....	18,320,100	27,586,900
Civilian stocks, May 1....	733,000	1,460,000
Shipments during April....	927,000	1,374,000
Shipments, Aug. 1-May 1..	17,596,100	26,126,900

* Estimated government purchases from 1945 pack.

STOCKS AND SHIPMENTS BY AREAS (ACTUAL CASES)

Areas	Total civilian stocks Mar. 1, 1946	Apr. 1, 1946	Civilian shipments Mar., 1946
	Cases	Cases	Cases
Eastern States:			
Cream style—			
White.....	40,113	23,300	16,813
Golden.....	244,980	169,123	75,866
Whole grain—			
Golden.....	165,831	111,831	54,000
White.....	16,596	9,200	7,396
Western States:			
Cream style—			
White.....	305,863	186,065	119,798
Golden.....	1,103,144	623,294	479,850
Whole grain—			
Golden.....	1,137,646	390,192	747,454
White.....	7,850	3,559	4,291

Total Eastern... 467,529 313,454 154,075
Total Western... 2,554,503 1,203,110 1,351,393

Total U. S. 3,022,032 1,516,564 1,505,468

Tolley Quits BAE to Join FAO

Howard R. Tolley has resigned, effective May 15, as chief of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics to become chief economist and director of the Division of Economics and Marketing in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Mr. Tolley had been with the Department of Agriculture since 1915 except for five years which he served as Director of the Giannini Foundation at the University of California at Berkeley. He had been chief of BAE since 1938.

BAE Reports Rain Needed for Favorable Progress of Pea Crop

The northern tier of States from New York westward to Minnesota needed rain by May 1 to provide favorable conditions for the 1946 crop of green peas for processing, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported this week. The need was becoming especially acute in Wisconsin. Timely showers near the end of April relieved the deficiency in central and southern Indiana, across Illinois and in Iowa, but west of the Cascade Mountains in Oregon and Washington, too frequent rains were hindering growers in planting their seed, USDA said.

By the end of April, blossoms were appearing on the vines in Virginia northward to New Jersey. A limited acreage may be ready by mid-May for harvesting. In the Northwest, the crop is also advancing rapidly and, with continued favorable conditions, growers may begin harvesting operations during the last 10 days of May.

Brief cool spells in scattered areas east of the Rocky Mountains did little damage except to retard the growth of the pea crop. Rains turning to snow were reported late in April in western New York and heavy frosts occurred in Wisconsin, but damage was not severe in either State. The official report by areas continues:

Delaware, the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia: Through most of March, farmers were able to work in their fields and much of the acreage intended for green peas was planted in late March and early April. By the end of April, blossoms were appearing in some of the first fields to be planted. Harvesting is expected to get under way to a limited extent by the middle of May.

Pennsylvania and Western Maryland: Very little acreage in western Maryland and Pennsylvania remained to be planted after May 1. Soil was generally sufficiently well supplied with moisture to germinate the pea seed but additional rains were needed to maintain good growing conditions. In limited areas, pea vines had attained a height of around 3 inches.

New York: Conditions in March were favorable for plowing fields, and a few farmers planted green peas before the end of the month. By the end of April, practically all of the acreage intended for this crop had been planted. A brief spell of cool weather toward the end of the month, with snow falling on April 26-27, retarded growth but did not inflict serious injury and the crop generally appeared good, although rains would be beneficial.

Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan: In central Indiana and southward, grow-

ers planted peas earlier than usual and by May 1 vines were about to bloom in some fields. In Ohio and northern Indiana, planting operations continued through April. From two-thirds to 90 percent of the Michigan acreage was planted by May 1. Good growing conditions were maintained in southern Indiana by timely rains but in the rest of this three State area peas were in need of additional moisture by the end of April.

Illinois and Wisconsin: Growers in Illinois expected to finish planting Alaskas early in May, and most of their acreage intended for sweet varieties, by May 15. In Wisconsin, progress was slower because temperatures were below normal and much of the land was too dry. Heavy frosts were reported April 26-27. While some of the acreage intended for Alaskas was planted by May 1, most of the growers will plant this early type through the first half of May and follow with sweet varieties as rapidly as possible.

Iowa and Minnesota: Planting in Minnesota was mostly finished by May 1. Fields were generally sufficiently well supplied with moisture at planting time to germinate the seed but additional moisture is now needed to maintain good growth. Vines in the early fields were 3 or 4 inches high by the end of April. In Iowa, planting was mostly completed around April 20 and the crop is developing satisfactorily.

Colorado and Utah: Operations were being carried on about on schedule in each of these States. More rainfall would be beneficial.

Oregon and Washington: In the eastern portion of these two States, weather was favorable through April for field work and growers expected to finish planting their acreage by May 10. Rains late in April relieved the need for moisture and provided very good conditions for the growing crop. Some vines are beginning to bloom and indications are that some of the crop may be ready for harvesting around May 20.

Too frequent rains west of the Cascade Mountains impeded planting operations late in April. However, where growers got their pea seed planted, it was germinating rapidly and growers hope to complete planting operations early in May.

Stocks of Canned Peas

Civilian stocks of canned peas in canners' hands May 1, 1946, totaled 1,184,912 actual cases equivalent to 1,227,000 cases, basis No. 2's, according to the Association's Division of Statistics. These compare with May 1, 1945, stocks of 409,000 cases basis No. 2's.

Shipments of canned peas during April, 1946, were 1,162,093 actual cases, equivalent to 1,195,000 cases, basis No. 2's. Shipments of canned peas in April, 1945, were 403,000 cases, basis No. 2's.

The table shown below is based on reports from canners who packed about 89 percent of the 1945 pack, together with estimates for those not reporting:

SUPPLY, STOCKS AND SHIPMENTS (BASIS 24 2's)

	1944-45 Cases	1945-46 Cases
Carryover stocks June 1...	700,000	131,000
Pack.....	31,524,000	30,640,000
Total supply.....	32,224,000	30,780,000
Government purchases.....	12,577,000	*3,830,000
Civilian supply.....	19,647,000	35,950,000
Civilian stocks, May 1...	409,000	1,227,000
Shipments during April...	403,000	1,195,000
Shipments June 1-May 1...	10,238,000	34,733,000

* Revised government purchases from 1945 pack.

STOCKS AND SHIPMENTS BY AREAS (ACTUAL CASES)

Area	Stocks, Apr. 1, 1946 Cases	Stocks, May 1, 1946 Cases	Shipments during Apr., 1946 Cases
New York and Maine:			
Alaskas.....	100		100
Sweets.....	159,959	95,074	64,883
Mid-Atlantic:			
Alaskas.....	25,859	9,836	16,023
Sweets.....	35,334	14,794	20,549
Mid-West:			
Alaskas.....	501,591	276,623	224,968
Sweets.....	869,892	386,036	463,830
Western:			
Alaskas.....	23,797	8,133	15,664
Sweets.....	730,473	394,416	336,067
Total U. S.:			
Alaskas.....	551,347	294,592	256,755
Sweets.....	1,795,658	890,320	905,338

Illumination Survey Made

S. H. Hazleton of the General Electric Company, who is a member of the Illuminating Engineering Society Subcommittee on Lighting in the Canning Industry, and C. W. Bohrer of the Association's Washington Research Laboratory, have just completed a survey of 10 canning plants packing different types of food products in New York State. The survey is a phase of the work now being done by the subcommittee, which is studying the illuminating needs of canning plants. (See INFORMATION LETTER SUPPLEMENT for February 12, page 100.)

The results of the above study along with those made in other sections of the country will form the basis for recommendations to be made by the subcommittee with regard to developing proper lighting facilities for canning plants.

Stanford Offers N.C.A. Illumination Research Fellowship

Stanford University has sent out announcements outlining \$1,800 Illumination Research Fellowship sponsored by the National Canners Association. The fellowship, which is being offered from August 15, 1946, to August 15, 1947, was authorized by the N.C.A. Board of Directors at the Atlantic City Convention. The announcement reads:

This fellowship was established by the National Canners Association to further a study of Cannery Lighting initiated by the Illuminating Engineering Society Subcommittee on Lighting in the Canning Industry. It offers the opportunity for a year of graduate study at Stanford University combined with a research in illumination for industrial purposes. The Fellow will be expected to devote to this research full time for the first month, half time for the academic year (September 15, 1946, to June 15, 1947) and full time for the last two months of the fellowship year.

The prerequisites for this fellowship are a Bachelor's degree from a recognized college and either the completion of an introductory course in illuminating engineering or the equivalent in experience in industry in the field of illumination. University credit will be allowed for the research work and the results may be used for a thesis. Consequently, the Fellow will be expected to register for a full-time academic program leading to an advanced degree in Electrical Engineering and pay all regular university fees including tuition. The fellowship is actually a stipend for the research specified and will be paid in cash. It is open to any applicant who has the necessary prerequisites, regardless of whether or not he receives a tuition fellowship from some other source.

Applications should be made on forms available from the Department of Electrical Engineering, Stanford University, Calif., and filed with the Department on or before June 15, 1946. Address Professor Leland H. Brown.

Mobile Field Laboratory to Operate in New York State

The Association's Washington Research Laboratory has informed N.C.A. members in New York State that bacteriological survey work will be resumed in that State this year during the pea, corn and tomato juice packing seasons. This type of work has been an important feature of the Laboratory's service to members in the past but has been curtailed during the war due to travel difficulties and pressure of emergency work.

The plan of operation, as in the past, involves setting up a mobile field laboratory at a central location and collecting one or more sets of samples from surrounding canning plants which have requested the service. Examination of the samples for spoilage bacteria shows whether spoilage hazards exist and if so, remedial measures are suggested to the canner.

Further details regarding the operation schedule and location points for the mobile laboratory will be announced later.

New Northwest Organization

The Northwest Packers and Growers, Inc., an organization similar in purpose and scope to the California Processors and Growers, Inc., has been formed, with headquarters at 519 Southwest Third Avenue, Portland, Ore. Its membership includes twenty-eight processors of fresh fruits and vegetables in the States of Washington and Oregon.

Officers of the new organization are: Henry G. Hohwiser, Starr Fruit Products Co., Portland, president; Robert C. Paulus, Paulus Bros. Packing Co., Salem, Ore., vice president; and William E. Yeomans, Portland, secretary-treasurer. Mr. Yeomans formerly was secretary-treasurer of the similar California group.

Canned Food Ceilings Lifted

Twenty-three canned food products were exempted and one other was suspended from price control, effective May 15, by the Office of Price Administration. The action was taken through the issuance of Amendment 28 to Supplementary Order 132. Canned food products exempted follow:

Fish—Anchovies in brine (imported and domestic); anchovies and anchovy paste, canned (imported and domestic); anchovy sprats (imported); cod liver (imported and domestic); cod liver paste (imported and domestic); crabmeat specialties (imported and domestic). (This includes, but is not limited to, cakes and cocktails.) Fish cakes, canned and frozen; fish chowders; shad; shark fillets, salted (imported and domestic); vinegar cured herring; and vinegar cured herring products (imported and domestic).

Miscellaneous Fruits and Vegetables—Beets; bamboo sprouts; Chinese water chestnuts; fig juice; hearts of palms (imported); kumquats; okra; onion juice; papaya juice; pet foods; and turkey foie gras.

All canned lobster products were suspended from price control by the OPA action.

Frozen Fish Stocks Held in Cold Storage Are Reported

Holdings of frozen and cured fish in cold storage on May 1, 1946, totaled 92,314,000 pounds as compared with 101,970,000 pounds on April 1, 1946, and 50,074,000 on May 1, 1945, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The following table lists by varieties the quantities of frozen and cured fish held in cold storage during the respective periods:

SPECIES	May 1, 1945	Apr. 1, 1946	May 1, 1946
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Salt water fish:			
Bait and animal food..	4,226	4,112	5,144
Bluefish.....	24	100	142
Butterfish.....	61	267	138
Cod, haddock, hake, pollock, whole.....	737	1,742	1,661
Croakers.....	392	416	294
Eels.....	71	177	144
Fillets (miscellaneous).....	4,758	14,619	15,002
Flounders (inc. fillets).....	657	2,070	1,977
Halibut.....	516	2,366	1,143
Herring, sea.....	953	782	1,045
Mackerel (Boston) (inc. fillets).....	652	3,119	2,510
Mullet.....	109	1,589	1,269
Sablefish (black cod).....	1,207	2,164	2,313
Salmon (all species).....	964	7,215	5,030
Seep (porgies).....	136	914	740
Sea trout (weakfish, gray and spotted).....	74	808	554
Shad and shad roe.....	287	293	292
Smeets (sea).....	2,172	2,059	1,803
Swordfish.....	80	867	546
Whiting (inc. fillets).....	1,457	6,246	5,318
Miscellaneous salt water fish.....	5,221	10,204	10,032
Fresh water fish:			
Bait and animal food..	555	1,326	1,218
Blue pike and sauger (inc. fillets).....	236	207	220
Catfish and bullheads.....	25	208	175
Chubs.....	78	530	447
Lake herring and cisco (inc. fillets).....	354	3,255	2,588
Lake trout.....	285	838	788
Pickerei, jacks or yellow jacks.....	132	204	189
Sturgeon and spoon- bill cat.....	15	28	46
Suckers.....	92	31	34
Tullibee.....	203	491	399
Yellow perch (inc. fil- lets).....	40	54	84
Yellow pike (or wall- eye) (inc. fillets).....	36	255	239
Whitefish.....	1,031	1,893	1,501
Miscellaneous fresh water fish.....	494	905	938
Shellfish:			
Lobster tails (spiny lobster).....	93	425	424
Scallops.....	328	463	405
Shrimp.....	2,671	8,753	6,935
Squid.....	169	869	620
Miscellaneous shellfish.....	880	1,471	1,492
Frozen fish, total.....	33,509	84,265	75,739
Cured fish, total.....	17,565	17,705	16,575
Total, all fish.....	50,074	101,970	92,314

SNYDER ASSURES DAVIS THAT FOOD PROCESSING WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE TOP EMERGENCY PRIORITIES

N. C. A. Plea for "Essentiality"
Ratings for Industry Gets
OWMR Acceptance

John W. Snyder, Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion, this week made public a letter which he had sent Chester C. Davis, Chairman of the Famine Emergency Committee, outlining OWMR's efforts to maintain top priorities for food processing and allied industries. Mr. Snyder's letter, stresses the "essentiality" of food processing and is another evidence of the Association's efforts to have food processing given the highest possible priorities by government agencies. (The Association has been in constant contact with Mr. Snyder and other key government officials urging that all top priorities given food processing and allied industries during the war be continued throughout the present emergency.) Excerpts from Mr. Snyder's letter follow:

The actions taken by my office fall into three classes: (1) channelling critical items to food producers and processors which will increase the amount of food grown and processed both in this country and overseas; (2) preventing waste and spoilage of foods; and (3) breaking transportation bottlenecks.

1. Under established procedure, the Department of Agriculture keeps the Civilian Production Administration informed of requirements of critical items for food production and processing and receives assistance to meet its needs. I have directed the Civilian Production Administration to make every effort to meet the requirements for these items as they are presented by the Department of Agriculture.

Actions already taken by the Civilian Production Administration include set-asides of textiles for the manufacture of bags for shipping agricultural products and farm supplies, channelling seed bed cloth to farmers, priorities on refrigeration equipment for the preservation of food, and the allocation of 85 percent of the tinplate available for domestic use to containers for perishable foods. I have asked the Department of Agriculture to review its requirements for lard containers, and if it finds that shipments of lard to famine areas are being held up because of lack of containers, the Department will inform the Civilian Production Administration of its requirements, which in my belief can be met even with the existing shortage of steel.

Action also has been taken to release from the Army to the War As-

sets Administration surplus wire for wire bale ties.

In view of the world shortage of fertilizer, my office is working with the Department of Agriculture and other Government agencies to assure the maximum production of nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers both for domestic and overseas use.

My office has also worked closely with the Department of Agriculture, the Office of Economic Stabilization, and other agencies to adjust price controls and subsidy payments on a number of food items, the most recent of which are dairy products.

2. To make sure that all perishable food produced this season is harvested and processed, a program will shortly be announced whereby tents, cots, and messing equipment will be provided from surplus stocks for 50,000 transient workers engaged in the harvesting and processing of perishable foods this season.

3. On January 4, I informed an Inter-agency Committee on Export Transportation to expedite the ship-

ment of wheat and coal to distressed areas. At that time transportation was one of the most serious bottlenecks of the food program. Through action of the Committee this problem was solved. If future steps to coordinate rail and water transportation of foodstuffs from farm to port become necessary, they will be taken.

The major difficulties of the moment in connection with the production of food appear to center around the supply of coal and steel. Unless the production of steel is increased, there will continue to be a critical shortage of many steel products, including harvesting machinery, food processing machinery and supplies, and other essential items used for food production and processing. . . . However, I am asking the Civilian Production Administration to appraise the supply and demand situation for steel as it will probably exist when the (coal) strike is over. On the basis of this appraisal we will determine what steps should be taken to insure that the most essential demands for steel are met. The essential demands will include those for food production and distribution as well as for housing, maintenance of transportation and public utilities, and exports.

Anderson Warns That Resumption of the Coal Strike Would Imperil Nation's Food Supply by Stopping Processing of Food

Most of the Nation's food industries would be close to a standstill within a few days if the coal strike should be resumed, Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson reported this week to John W. Snyder, director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion. Without coal for power and refrigeration, as well as for transportation, vast quantities of food would spoil, imperiling not only U. S. shipments of food overseas but also the domestic supply during the coming winter.

Coal shortages last week had already halted most production of farm machinery and supplies needed to harvest, pack, and store 1946 farm production. A serious shortage of tinplate and other materials for food containers is made worse by loss of production from power shutdowns. With seasonal production of perishable commodities just ahead, any failure in the container supply will result in heavy wastage of food.

"I consider the effect of coal shortages on food alone a national calamity," Secretary Anderson said, in reporting the seriousness of the situation. "Without coal our food industry cannot process our 1946 farm output, which is just now beginning to come into harvest."

Secretary Anderson stressed the alarming situation which would face the milk industry. Fluid milk, an extremely perishable food, requires power both for pasteurization and refrigeration before it can be distributed. Every plant processing milk products likewise requires heat. Although milk is produced the year around, the peak of production is during May, June, and July. During this period, milk not needed for day-to-day fluid milk uses is processed into condensed and evaporated milk, cheese, dried milk, and other products to be stored and used later for shipment to famine areas or for use in this country.

Milk is the principal food for babies and is essential for growing children. Certain areas, principally the Southeast, depend on condensed or evaporated milk as a milk source the year around. If the coal shortage continues, the deficit areas will be without milk much of the rest of the year.

Without coal, food processors likewise will be unable to handle the 1946 fruit and vegetable crops now coming on. In about two weeks the pea crop of 35 million cases is scheduled for processing. Coal shortages have already caused shorter supplies of tin-

plate needed to process these crops. Canneries would face complete shutdown for lack of power in a short time.

Other food industries are similarly affected. Lack of power for refrigeration and plant operation will halt processing and storage of meat products, grain, poultry, and food in nearly every form. Much of the nation's food reserve is in cold storage. Seventy-one hundred freezer lockers alone hold an estimated 616 million pounds of meat. If power is cut off for even a few days, it will be impossible to avoid loss of this food through spoilage.

Mr. Snyder advised Secretary Anderson that every possible action within the power of the President would be used to prevent a further shutdown of the coal mines. (A letter which Mr. Snyder wrote to Chester C. Davis, Chairman of the Famine Emergency Committee, on this subject is reprinted in part on page 214.)

BEAN STANDARDS HEARING

(Concluded from page 209)

Administration witnesses introduced evidence to support the standards which they had proposed (see INFORMATION LETTER for April 13, pages 163-4). On those points where their original proposals had not been specific, they made definite proposals as follows:

1. Whole beans to be labeled either "Vertical Pack Whole" or "Jumble Pack Whole" beans.
2. The maximum amount of seeds in trimmed pods to be 15 percent by weight.
3. The maximum amount of fibrous material to be 0.10 percent.
4. The proportion of blemished units to be not more than one per ounce of drained weight.

Industry witnesses introduced evidence to support the following changes in the proposed standards:

1. The word "Stringless" to be omitted from the name of both green and wax beans and that otherwise the existing standard of identity to be retained. This provides for the required designations of styles of pack to be only "Whole," "Cut" and "Sliced lengthwise," "French-style," "Julienne" or "Shoestring."
2. The number of strings to be based on percent of units by count and the amount to be set at 30 percent of the units in the can.
3. The amount of seeds in the pods to be set at 22 percent by weight.
4. With reference to the amount of fibrous material in the pods the analytical data submitted were confusing

and there is need for more specific description of the method to be used. No definite maximum amount could be recommended.

5. The percent of harmless extraneous vegetable material should never be based on the examination of a single can.

6. What constitutes a "stem end" should be more accurately stated and canners believe it should apply only to the presence of the actual stem.

7. The need for a more specific description of a "blemished unit" was emphasized.

8. Several canners have excellent packs of beans cut to one-half inch lengths. There should be a sliding scale of tolerances for noticeably shorter pieces based on the predominant length of the pieces in the can.

9. The tests should be made on larger samples—preferably 12 ounces—in order to reduce the variations due to sampling, and details of the tests should be more specific.

10. Because of the large number of commercial varieties of beans for canning and differing growing conditions both as to areas and to seasonal variations, more samples of commercial packs should be examined in establishing any limits on the character of the beans.

At the conclusion of the hearing the presiding officer announced that a period of 20 days from May 16th would be allowed for corrections to the evidence and the exhibits and that a period of 45 days from May 16th would be allowed for the submission of briefs based on the evidence in the record. Such corrections and briefs should be sent to the:

Presiding Officer, Bernard D. Levinson, Room 3257, Social Security Building, Washington, D. C.

CANNED VEGETABLE SUBSIDY

(Concluded from page 209)

WAA to give all assistance possible to certified buyers.

Canners needing tents, canvas cots, and blankets will be advised by the Washington office of WAA of the location of these items and the amount of money that should accompany an order.

The program is based on a directive by the Civilian Production Administration to the War Assets Administration, which expires June 30. The directive limits the equipment that can be purchased to a quantity not to exceed the needs of 50,000 workers composed of 20,000 processing workers and 30,000 field workers. It limits purchase to items in government surplus and to quantities in such lot sizes as to make sales feasible. For this reason, the Association recommends, when possible, canners group their

needs in one order, and send a representative with the necessary certification to the regional WAA office to "shop" for the equipment ordered.

Regional offices of War Assets Administration directed to cooperate in the program are located at 600 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.; 350 Fifth Avenue, New York City; 1525 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.; 704 Race Street, Cincinnati, Ohio; 209 S. La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill.; 699 Ponce de Leon Avenue, N. E., Atlanta, Ga.; Texas and Pacific Office Bldg., Fort Worth, Texas; 128 15th Street, Denver, Colo.; 30 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, Calif.; and 2005 5th Avenue, Seattle, Wash.

Most Fresh and Frozen Fish Suspended from Price Control

Suspension of price control from most fresh and frozen fish, and most foods processed from fish, except canned fish, for 90 days beginning May 20, 1946, was announced Friday by the Office of Price Administration.

Fish by-products, including oils and meals, and the following species, will remain subject to price control. All others will be decontrolled: All canned fish items except canned shrimp; all varieties of fresh and frozen Pacific salmon, halibut, tuna and tuna-like fish; pilchards, alewives and sea herring (sardines); any foods processed from Pacific Coast salmon, halibut, tuna and tuna-like fish, pilchards, alewives and herring, such as kippered salmon, mild-cured salmon and smoked boneless herring.

The following salt fish: Salt cod, hake, pollock, haddock, cusk, ling, and saithe.

The following canned fish items: Salmon, mackerel, squid, fish flakes, Atlantic sea herring and alewives, Maine sardines, California sardines, tuna or tuna-like fish.

Large Grape Crop Expected

According to the May 1 crop production report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, just issued, California grapes are in good condition now but there is some concern that the acreage without irrigation, largely wine varieties in coastal counties, may not have adequate soil moisture for maturing the crop. By May 1, bunch forms were in evidence in most Thompson Seedless vineyards. In Washington, vineyards are in excellent condition and expected to be in full bloom in the western area and coming into bloom in the eastern part of the State about May 10.

CONGRESS SUMMARY

In favorably reporting to the House a bill (H. R. 6303) containing a number of amendments to the marketing agreement provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, the Committee on Agriculture, on May 14, recommended that the "orders" section of the law be broadened to include "other agricultural commodities or the products of such commodities." Such an amendment to the Act, if enacted, would have the effect of making canning crops subject to possible marketing control by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The "orders" section of the Act, among other things, provides for limitations on the total quantity of any agricultural product which may be marketed in any or all markets; allocations of the amount of a commodity which each handler may purchase from or handle in behalf of any producer by grade, size, or quality; determinations and controls of surpluses; and the establishment of reserve pools. The only contingency upon which the issuance of an "order" containing such provisions rests, is that the Secretary of Agriculture determines that its issuance "would more effectively advance the interests of the producers" and that "a majority of the producers . . . approve or favor the application of the provisions. . . ."

The canning industry has opposed the blanket inclusion of canning crops in the Act from the time the proposal was first submitted to Congress in 1935. Recurrently, efforts have been made to remove the exemption of canning crops. However, Congress, thus far, has always accepted the industry's position and has turned down a number of proposals in the past to remove the canning crop exemptions.

Before the present bill was considered by the House Agriculture Committee, informal discussions were held by representatives of the canning industry with the author of the bill, Representative John W. Flannagan, Jr., chairman of the committee. In the course of the discussions, Chairman Flannagan stated he had no intention of extending coverage of the Act to canned commodities. Assurance was given that the bill would be changed to continue the canning exemption. Inadvertently, however, such action was not taken before the measure was reported to the House.

Consideration of the bill by the House is not expected for several weeks. When the measure does come before that body, it will be open for amendment from the floor, at which time the House can accept an amendment clearly continuing in effect the canning crops exemption from marketing agreement control.

Two resolutions proposing investigations of labor disputes received Congressional action this past week. The Senate Committee on Education and Labor reported a measure that would authorize it to investigate disputes between labor and management, including union and employer practices and policies, and to study the underlying basic differences for the purpose of formulating measures designed to ameliorate such differences. The resolution (S. Res. 228), would provide for an appropriation of \$50,000 for financing the investigation.

On the other side of the Capitol, the House Rules Committee voted to report a joint resolution (H. J. Res. 352), introduced by Representative Howard W. Smith of Virginia that would provide for the creation of a joint Congressional Committee of 10 members to study and recommend legislation to promote harmonious relations between labor and industry and to safeguard the public interest in the orderly and uninterrupted flow of interstate commerce, mining, manufacturing, and production of essential commodities. The committee also would be directed to study and report on the desirability of health and safety legislation for industries that are essentially hazardous and the establishment of voluntary welfare funds for the benefit of ill, disabled or aged employees.

Thus far in its current consideration of amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act, the House Committee on Labor has taken no action on the important questions of recommending an increase in the minimum wage, extending coverage, or changing any of the existing exemptions under the Act. The Committee held three meetings during the past week and has scheduled another meeting for May 23.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations reported on May 15 the annual Department of Agriculture appropriation bill with recommendations for increases totaling more than \$25,000,000 over the amount passed by the House. As reported, the Senate bill would authorize expenditures of \$573,601,949 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1947. This amount exceeds

the Budget Bureau's estimates by more than \$8,000,000 but is more than \$10,000,000 under appropriations for the current fiscal year.

Frozen Fruit and Vegetable Stocks Held in Cold Storage

Stocks of frozen fruit in cold storage on May 1, 1946, totaled 289,433,000 pounds as compared with 321,765,000 pounds on April 1, 1946, and 168,871,000 pounds on May 1, 1945, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Frozen vegetable stocks on May 1, 1946, totaled 138,554,000 pounds as against 147,394,000 pounds on April 1, 1946, and 84,120,000 pounds on May 1, 1945. The following table furnishes details by commodities:

	May 1, 1945	Apr. 1, 1946	May 1, 1946
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
FROZEN FRUITS			
Apples.....	44,765	64,291	57,511
Blackberries.....	4,356	12,636	10,717
Cherries.....	13,569	16,231	13,825
Young, Logan, Boyesen.....	3,904	5,733	4,728
Raspberries.....	6,140	10,384	9,084
Strawberries.....	12,681	13,781	15,635
Grapes.....	8,671	11,758	10,396
Plums and prunes.....	6,394	14,238	13,058
Peaches.....	15,468	56,434	49,481
Fruit juices and purees.....	12,171	23,743	22,101
Apricots.....	24,826	23,206
Blueberries.....	18,245	13,002
All other fruits.....	40,752	52,465	46,647
Total.....	168,871	321,765	289,433

	3,763	4,825	6,000
FROZEN VEGETABLES			
Asparagus.....	5,054	9,197	7,479
Beans, lima.....	6,187	11,079	8,931
Beans, snap.....	5,153	14,488	15,181
Broccoli.....	2,090	4,966	5,285
Cauliflower.....	8,888	13,434	10,912
Corn, sweet.....	13,657	20,840	21,436
Peas, green.....	12,178	16,718	21,032
Spinach.....	1,936	3,898	3,320
Brussels sprouts.....	4,960	5,536	5,277
Pumpkin and squash.....	1,720	949	823
Baked beans.....	524	402	643
Vegetable purees.....	17,998	32,062	31,339
All other vegetables.....
Total.....	84,120	147,394	138,554

Cuban Exports Go to U. S.

Ninety-one percent of Cuba's processed fruit and vegetable production of 33,000 short tons in 1945 was shipped to the United States, according to a report issued this week by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Canned and frozen pineapple accounted for the largest single item packed for export with grated coconut being second in volume.

DR. M. J. ROSENAU DIES

**Was Prominent Medical Authority
on Food Poisons; Once Did
N. C. A. Research**

Dr. Milton J. Rosenau, 77, who directed a scientific investigation on the subject of food poisoning during the period of the first World War, passed away at Chapel Hill, N. C., on April 9.

When the research laboratories of the National Canners Association were organized in 1913, it was contemplated that a systematic study of food poisoning should be undertaken. Attempts were made to have this study undertaken by one of the government laboratories or under the direction of members of the faculty of one of the leading medical schools. These attempts were unsuccessful until 1916, the year the National Research Council was organized.

At the request of the Association, and with N.C.A. funds, the Council organized an investigation of food poisoning under the direction of Dr. Rosenau, who was then head of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Hygiene at Harvard University Medical School. Dr. Rosenau, with an advisory board of six men from several universities prominent in the fields of chemistry, bacteriology and physiology, began his study on food poisoning early in 1917, and the results of the investigations were published in a series of articles in scientific journals.

Dr. Rosenau announced that as a result of these investigations that they had been unable to find any evidence that ptomaines would produce illness in human beings when taken by mouth.

Books used in medical schools at that time contained statements that the increased use of canned foods in recent years had augmented the number of outbreaks of food poisoning, and the suggestion was also made that they might be a factor in nervous and intestinal diseases. The articles resulting from Dr. Rosenau's work pointed out that these statements were erroneous, and medical books issued since that time, as far as they have come under observation, do not contain such statements. Dr. Rosenau also called attention to the fact that, because of their method of preparation, canned foods are not subjected to contamination by bacteria as in the case of foods stored in bulk and for that reason are "the safest foods that come to your table." Dr. Rosenau's investigations on the general subject

of food poisoning was closed in 1920, and he then devoted two years to the study of botulism.

From 1890 to 1909 Dr. Rosenau served in the U. S. Public Health Service and for the last 10 years of that time was Director of the Hygienic Laboratory. In 1909 he became Professor of Preventive Medicine and Hygiene at Harvard University,

where he continued to serve until 1935.

Dr. Rosenau, in 1913 published his great work, "Preventive Medicine and Hygiene," which has since been the standard text book in this field. In 1935 he retired from Harvard on account of his health, but later he recovered and accepted the post of Professor of Epidemiology at the University of North Carolina.

Prospects for Apples, Sour Cherries, Plums, and Apricots Appear More Favorable Than Last Year, USDA Report Reveals

The complete fruit picture is far from clear at this early date because of undetermined effects of April and possible May frosts and freezes, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported this week. But prospects for apples, sour cherries, plums and apricots appear favorable for production at higher levels than the short crops of last year, with other deciduous fruits about as favorable as a year ago.

The early Southern peach crop, which will start to market in May and be in volume in June and July, appears to be nearly as large as last year's record. The Pacific Coast area should again produce a large aggregate fruit crop.

In the Midwest and East, severe frost damage has cut prospects in many areas, but about an average crop of apples seems likely for the region, in contrast to last year's near failure, and the peach crop may be about as large as last year. The California Valencia orange crop is about one-third less than last year's record. Prospects continue favorable for the 1946-47 citrus crops, the report stated.

Individual forecasts for the various fruits follow:

Apples: Although apple prospects were reduced by April and early May frosts in many of the country's commercial areas, a U. S. apple crop of about average still (May 8) seems a reasonable possibility. Further frost damage in May is still a hazard for the northern areas and it is too early to fully evaluate the effects of frosts that have already occurred.

A warm March in both 1945 and 1946 unseasonably advanced fruit buds in eastern and central sections but low temperatures to date appear to have caused considerably less damage than last year when the U. S. apple crop turned out a record low. In the West, the production prospect still appears favorable for a near-average crop although frosts have reduced the prospective set of fruit in some areas.

Peaches: A 26-million bushel peach crop in the 10 early Southern States is indicated by May 1 prospects. Such

a production would be second in size only to the 27-million bushel crop of 1945 and over 1½ times the 1935-44 average of 16 million bushels. Present prospects point to the largest crops of record in the Carolinas and far above average production in each of the other eight States. In these early States there is an ample supply of moisture for current development of the crop.

In the Middle Atlantic States, frost at blooming time caused some damage. In the northeast, prospects are promising at this time. In the midwest, freezes have caused considerable variation in prospects with Michigan having the best outlook at present. In the West, Colorado expects a good crop, though not as large as the record one of 1945. California and Washington prospects to date indicate large crops.

Pears: California Bartlett pears appear to have experienced an unusually heavy drop and prospects are not as favorable as on April 1. The Sacramento River pear area is expected to produce a light crop. Shedding of pears other than Bartletts was just beginning on May 1. Prospects for winter Nelis are more favorable than last year but present conditions indicate that crops of other fall and winter varieties may be smaller than 1945.

Washington pear trees have passed the blooming period and present prospects are very favorable. The principal effect of the cold weather on April 29 probably was thinning the fruit. The fruit set at present appears to be fairly uniform.

Oregon pear prospects continue to be encouraging. Production for the State, of both Bartletts and fall and winter pears is expected to be above average but less than last year.

Plums and Prunes: California plums are making good progress. The May 1 indicated production is 88,000 tons compared with 71,000 tons produced in 1945.

California prunes developed a good fruit set in the interior valleys, but prospects are irregular in the bay and coastal areas, including the Santa Clara Valley. The coastal and bay areas generally account for a very large portion of the State crop. In those areas, many of the fruit forms

are shedding, and reliable indications relative to the final fruit set are not yet available.

In the Milton-Freewater area of eastern Oregon, prune trees were in full blossom about the middle of April. Weather conditions during the blossoming period were favorable for pollination and a good crop is in prospect. Production, however, is expected to be somewhat smaller than last year's bumper crop in that area. In western Oregon, prospects are irregular. Weather conditions, in general, were favorable during the blossoming period but the bloom was light and rather irregular in some orchards. Most of the crop was still in the jacket stage on May 1.

Washington prune prospects are generally good. Trees were in full bloom about mid-April. In Idaho, prunes were damaged by low temperatures the last of April and first of May. The full extent of the damage cannot be determined at this early date but indications are that losses were heavy in the Twin Falls district.

Apricots: In California, the 1946 production of apricots, as indicated by May 1 condition, is 298,000 tons compared with the small 1945 crop of 159,000 tons. California apricot trees produced a very heavy set of fruit in most of the major producing areas. Thinning of apricots was in progress on May 1. Considerable hail injury occurred on March 30 and 31 in Winters and Brentwood, the principal shipping areas.

Washington apricot trees carried a heavy bloom, and present indications point to a large crop this season. In Utah, apricot prospects were reduced materially by low temperatures the night of April 30. There was little or no damage to the crop in Washington county, and losses were relatively light in Box Elder and Weber counties. However, damage to the lowland crop in Davis county was quite general, and many orchards in Utah and Salt Lake counties suffered a complete loss.

Cranberries: No serious damage has yet occurred to cranberries in Massachusetts. Water supplies are low, however, and may prove inadequate. The early season, brought on by warm weather in March, has placed the dry bogs in a position where the hazards of frosts and freezes are greater than usual. Prospects in other States were favorable on May 1.

Cherries: Cherry prospects on May 1 were varied. In some areas of both the Eastern and Western States, frosts and freezes in April damaged the crop. As a rule, the sweet varieties suffered greater loss than sour. Present conditions indicate that average sized crops of both sweet and sour cherries are attainable. Sour cherries, however, are largely in northern sections of the country and severe freeze damage in May is possible.

Forthcoming Meetings

May 20—Office of Price Administration, Meeting of Canned Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee, Washington, D. C.

May 21—National Cannery Association, Administrative Council Meeting, Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

May 21-22—National Cannery Association, Plant Sanitation Conference, Lafayette Hotel, Long Beach, Calif.

May 22-23—National Cannery Association, Board of Directors Meeting, Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

May 23-24—National Cannery Association, Plant Sanitation Conference, The Elks Club, Anaheim, Calif.

May 27-28—National Cannery Association, Plant Sanitation Conference, San Diego Hotel, San Diego, Calif.

May 27-June 7—Food Processors Foundation, Cost Accounting Institute for Frozen Foods, College of the Pacific, Stockton, Calif.

June 2-4—Flavoring Extract Manufacturers Association, 36th Annual Convention, Drake Hotel, Chicago.

June 3—Michigan Cannery Association, Spring Meeting, Traverse City.

June 10-11—Maine Cannery Association, Summer Meeting, Lakewood.

June 17-18—Mayonnaise and Salad Dressing Manufacturers Association, Palmer House, Chicago, Ill.

June 17-19—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Mid-year Meeting, Shawnee-on-the-Delaware, Pa.

June 20—National Pickle Packers Association, Mid-year Meeting, Bismarck Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

June 21—Ozark Cannery Association, Annual Spring Meeting, Colonial Hotel, Springfield, Mo.

July 10-20—Indiana Cannery Association, Canning Technicians School, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

July 24-August 2—Association of New York State Cannery, Inc., New York State Experiment Station, Canning Technicians School, Geneva, N. Y.

November 21-22—Indiana Cannery Association, Inc., Fall Meeting, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis.

December 4-5—Tri-State Packers Association, Annual Fall Convention, Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa.

December 10-11—Ohio Cannery Association, Annual Convention, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus.

Canning Sanitation Studies

The Western Branch Research Laboratories of the National Cannery Association are conducting the following two-day conferences on canning plant sanitation for canners in southern California: May 21-22, Lafayette Hotel, Long Beach; May 23-24, The Elks Club, Anaheim; and May 27-28, San Diego Hotel, San Diego.

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